

• **MONDAY, MAY 14**, the next **Bend the Arc Nassau County chapter meeting, 7-8:30 PM at the Plainview Library**. They'll spend time on both electoral work as well as ongoing work on the FREEnewyork campaign for criminal justice reform. [RSVP here](#)

• **WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, Vigil to End Solitary Confinement, 6:30 PM – 7:00 PM, UUCSR, 48 Shelter Rock Road, Manhasset**. We gather on the 23rd of the month to remember those who suffer the torture of 23-24 hours a day in solitary confinement. We will read from the writings of those in isolation and speak the names of 23 individuals currently in solitary as we light a candle for each.

• **ACCOMPANY IMMIGRANTS TO COURT DATES** Are you interested in protecting innocent undocumented immigrants in our community? The immigrant organizer for Long Island Jobs With Justice is Victoria Daza, and anyone from our congregation who wants to get added to the email notification for accompaniment can send her a request: [lijwj01@gmail.com](mailto:lijwj01@gmail.com) The role is to bear witness and provide a show of support from the larger community. Contact Robin Sigman for more info.

• **SUPPORT AN RSNS B'NEI MITZVAH PROJECT!**

Greetings! The community was so generous a couple of years ago for my son Zach's Bar Mitzvah--we collected close to 1000 books and brought them to the Louis Armstrong school in Queens. Now my daughter Rianna is collecting journal books, sketch books, writing instruments (nice markers, pencils) for donation to the Jamaica Learning Center, a special school that serves recent immigrants to the US. These students have very few material resources and are working on literacy skills. We plan to bring as many of these art/writing materials to them as possible in May--if you have any such materials you'd like to donate, just text me at 646-895-2307 and Rianna will pick them up from your home or RSNS. Donations will be collected through May 15th. In gratitude! Dr. Laura Baecher

• **SUNDAY, JUNE 10 MARCH WITH US FOR LI PRIDE!** Would you like to be part of (or **help coordinate??**) an **RSNS contingent** to march in the **Pride Parade at 12pm in Long Beach?** Email Cantor Eric ASAP! [Click here](#) for more info.

• **IS ELAINE PHILLIPS YOUR STATE SENATOR? YOUR 5-MINUTE CALL COULD MAKE OR BREAK TRANSGENDER RIGHTS IN NEW YORK STATE!**

The NYS transgender civil rights bill (GENDA, the Gender Expression Non-Discrimination Act) is headed to the Investigations and Government Operations Committee of the New York State Senate for a vote in the next week or two. If this bill does not pass this committee, IT IS DEAD FOR 2018. PERIOD. The committee is made up of 4 Democrats and 5 Republicans (INCLUDING ELAINE PHILLIPS). If they vote along party lines, GENDA will be stalled in the Senate after passing in the House, for the 16th year in a row. That means yet another year of discrimination in employment, housing and public services.

Senator Phillips has made it clear that she supports rights for all, but she is not very aware of the transgender and non-binary community, and still has many questions. If enough of us call Senator Phillips, she might react positively to these actions and vote to move GENDA to the next committee. This act alone would be historical, as the bill has never passed a committee and moved to the next level of approval! Do you have FIVE MINUTES TO MAKE HISTORY??

Here's a sample script you can use when you call: "I am a constituent of Senator Phillips. I live at: (Street address and town). I want the Senator to know that transgender people deserve to

have their civil rights. I urge the Senator to vote for the Gender Expression Non-Discrimination Act, Senate Bill Number 7010 when she votes in the Senate Investigations and Government Operations Committee."

Senator Elaine Phillips contact information is:

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